



Proclamation *Presented*

In Recognition of George R. Ariyoshi

WHEREAS, George R. Ariyoshi was born to *issei* (first generation Japanese immigrant) parents in Honolulu, Hawai'i, on March 12, 1926; and

WHEREAS, George R. Ariyoshi served in the Armed Forces as an interpreter for the U.S. Military Intelligence Service in Japan during World War II, and under the GI Bill attended the University of Hawai'i and then Michigan State University, where he received a bachelor's degree in 1949 and law degree in 1952, later opening a practice in Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, George R. Ariyoshi married Jean Miya Hayashi on February 5, 1955, with whom he would raise a daughter, Lynn, and two sons, Ryoza and Donn; and

WHEREAS, George R. Ariyoshi joined other veterans, laborers, and people of color in 1954 to unseat the representatives of plantation and financial interests in the Territorial Legislature of Hawai'i, serving first as a Representative and then being elected to the Territorial Senate in 1958; and

WHEREAS, George R. Ariyoshi was elected Lieutenant Governor in 1970 with Governor John A. Burns, and when Burns was stricken with cancer assumed the role of acting Governor, winning election for three terms as the state's longest-tenured executive; and

WHEREAS, Governor Ariyoshi pursued equitable growth for the state, navigating its first recession, in the spirit of the Japanese ethic of "obligation to all" as the nation's first Asian American Governor; and

WHEREAS, Governor Ariyoshi continued to build on his accomplishments as Governor in strengthening the state's role in the Pacific and enhancing cooperation between leaders in the region, sharing his vision on the East-West Center's Board of Governors and offering his guidance to many other important regional institutions;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim March 16, 2014, as

"GEORGE R. ARIYOSHI DAY"

in Hawai'i, and ask all citizens of the Aloha State to join us in commemorating and recognizing the contributions and accomplishments of this leader and statesman.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this thirteenth day of March 2014.


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i


SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i